

☐ UNCLASSIFIED☐ INTERNAL  
USE ONLY☐ CONFIDENTIAL☒ SECRET

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

CI Biographic Summary on: **Howard ZINN (201-798730)**

FROM:

CI/OP

RCber

EXTENSION

6537

NO.

EX 1183 (rewrite of one dated

DATE

19 July 1967)

26 Apr 68

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

Prepared by: CI STAFF INTERNAL  
USE ONLY**DO NOT REPRODUCE  
RETURN TO CIA**

## Distribution:

- 1 - Subject's file
- 1 - CI Task Group Biographic Summaries
- 1 - Orig. for Final Report Typing
- 1 - EX Chrono

CI STAFF INTERNAL  
USE ONLY

7185

FORM 2-62

610

USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

☐

SECRET

☐

CONFIDENTIAL

☐INTERNAL  
USE ONLY☐

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

CI INTERNAL USE ONLY

Rewrite of  
EX-1183 (19 July 67)  
26 April 1968

SUBJECT: ZINN, Howard (201-798730)

1. Howard ZINN is an advisor of the Radical Education Project and a contributor to Ramparts magazine. Born 24 August 1922 in New York, New York, ZINN is a professor and an author. He is the son of Edward (DPOB: 1899, Austria) and Jennie ZINN (DPOB: 1898, Russia), nee RABINOWITZ, and the brother of Jerry ZINN. Subject was married to Roslyn ZINN (DPOB: 2 December 1922, New York City), nee: SCHECHTER on 30 October 1944. He was issued passport number F285869 on 26 April 1965 at Boston, Massachusetts.

ZINN's educational and employment history are as follows:

Education:

B.A., New York University, 1951;

M.A., Columbia University, 1952;

Ph.D., Columbia University, 1958.

Employment:

Instructor of history and political science.

Upsala College, East Orange, New Jersey, 1953-1956;

Lecturer in history, Brooklyn College, 1955-1956;

Chairman, Department of History, Social Sciences,

Professor, Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, 1956-1963;

Fellow, Harvard University Center for East Asian Studies,

1960-1961;

CI INTERNAL USE ONLY

SECRET

SECRET

Associate Professor of Government, Boston University,

1964-68.

ZINN served in the U.S. Army Air Force from 1943 to 1945. He is presently an advisor of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and is the author of SNCC: The New Abolitionists; The Southern Mystique; La Guardia In Congress; and an article in the December 1966 issue of Ramparts entitled "Of Fish and Fishermen." ZINN resides at 24 George Street, Newton, Massachusetts, and his business address is 236 Bay State Road, Boston, Massachusetts.

2. According to reports from the FBI, ZINN is a former member of the Communist Party who is presently involved with several leftist and/or pacifist organizations. In April 1966, ZINN was a sponsor of a New York City testimonial dinner honoring Herbert APTHKE and the second anniversary of the American Institute for Marxist Studies (AIMS) (described by an FBI source as a Communist Party organization). He was listed in the "AIMS" Newsletter as the featured speaker for the 7th session, 3 May 1967, of a seminar on "Marxism and Contemporary Problems" held at Harvard University. The seminar was sponsored by AIMS and Students for a Democratic Society (SDS).

In 1966, ZINN attended a teach-in at Western Reserve University, supported the November Peace Mobilization, served as a sponsor of the December National Student Anti-War Parley in Chicago, attended a summer peace conference in Japan with Professor Murray LEVIN, and denounced U.S. policy and "butchery" in Vietnam in appearances at Harvard and Boston Universities during which ZINN stated that the U.S. was the main aggressor in Vietnam. In July 1966, ZINN was a sponsor of the Alexander Defense Committee, an organization formed to publicize and provide funds for the

SECRET

SECRET

legal defense of Dr. Neville ALEXANDER and his associates who were convicted of crimes against the government of South Africa. (The Alexander Defense Committee was ordered by the U.S. Department of Justice to register as an agent of a foreign principal. Carl OGLESBY, Co-Chairman of the Defense Committee, is also a member of the Implementation Committee of the Radical Education Project.)

An FBI source advised that on 26 May 1966, a meeting of the Boston, Massachusetts Socialist Workers Party (SWP, cited by the Attorney General) was called as a memorial to Leo BERNARD, a SWP member assassinated in Detroit on 16 May 1966. At this meeting, a letter was read from ZINN in which he stated that the murder of BERNARD was the result of the "kill the 'commie'" ideology that ZINN described as popular in the United States. In addition, the 13 June 1966 issue of The Militant, weekly newspaper of the SWP, printed a letter from ZINN in connection with a memorial for BERNARD in which ZINN stated that BERNARD was the victim of the "fanatical anti-communism which has been so deep a part of the psychology of this country for a long time."

During 1967 ZINN spoke at many anti-Vietnam war functions. These included:

9 February

a Vietnam "teach-in" held in Cambridge, Massachusetts, sponsored by the MIT Committee to End the War in Vietnam;

12 April

an anti-Vietnam rally, held at MIT;

15 April

a meeting of the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (SMCEWV), held in New York City. (At this time he called for support of the Vietnam Summer Project.)

SECRET

SECRET

16 October

a public anti-draft protest demonstration, held in Boston, Massachusetts;

21 November

and an anti-Vietnam war lecture, held in Brockton, Massachusetts.

He was also one of the SNCEWV delegates who demanded to see the President of the United States, on 17 May 1967, concerning the Vietnam war; and during 1966 he was reportedly a member of the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam.

In December 1967 ZINN and Ernest P. YOUNG, Assistant Professor of History at Dartmouth College, were involved in the defection in Japan of four US Navy sailors from the aircraft carrier Intrepid. ZINN, according to a CIA report, received a telephone call from Yoshiyuki TSURUMI, a member of Behairen, the Japanese Peace-for-Vietnam Committee, who advised ZINN that the sailors had approached Behairen for help. (ZINN had reportedly spoken at anti-Vietnam war rallies in Japan during the summer of 1966 and was known to have given support to the Behairen movement.) The caller asked ZINN to suggest the name of a representative of the US peace movement who would be willing to travel to Tokyo and act as an observer in the case. ZINN recommended YOUNG, who agreed to make the trip after having been telephoned by ZINN. YOUNG arrived in Tokyo on 8 November 1967 and subsequently talked with the sailors for several hours. ZINN later said that the trip was paid for by the Japanese peace movement, but YOUNG reportedly claimed that the money came from Liberation magazine.

Lave DELLINGER (201-316705), editor of Liberation magazine, announced that he had received a telegram from Hanoi on 28 January 1968, from the Vietnam Peace Parade Committee, inviting him to send two representatives to Hanoi for the release of three American pilots. He stated

SECRET

SECRET

that the two representatives, chosen by the Committee for Support of Released Prisoners, were Rev. Daniel BERRIGAN and Prof. Howard ZINN. BERRIGAN and ZINN reportedly left on 31 January 1968 en route to Copenhagen, Bangkok, and then to Vientiane, Laos, where they were met by representatives of the International Control Commission who arranged their flight to Hanoi. On January 1968 the three American pilots, Morris Miller OVERLY, John David BLACK, and Paul MATHEW, were put in custody of ZINN and BERRIGAN by the North Vietnamese in Hanoi.

ZINN was among the signers of a statement which appeared in a Resist sponsored leaflet entitled "Statement of Support for: Benjamin SPOCK, Michael FERBER, William Eloane COFFIN, Marcus RASKIN, Mitchell GOODMAN." A quote from the statement follows: "We stand beside the men who have been indicted for support of draft resistance."

3. The files of this Agency reflect that ZINN is the former employer of David WELSH who is presently connected with the staff of Ramparts magazine. In June 1966, ZINN and SNCC leader Ralph FEATHERSTONE conducted a lecture tour in Japan that was sponsored by Beheiren, an anti-U.S. Vietnam policy organization. All of the Japanese participating in this lecture tour were reportedly leftists and/or former members of the Communist Party of Japan. In April 1967, ZINN was a speaker at the New York City rally of the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. During his speech, ZINN reportedly called for acts of civil disobedience to force the United States out of Vietnam.

SECRET

SECRET

Based on: 201-798730\*

CSCI-316-05611-67, 23 December 1967  
18-3

[REDACTED] 8259, IN 34709 10 June 1966;

IN-41362, 1 February 1968;

FBI Trace Results, No. 299, 14 April 1967;

O/S Interim Report, 16 May 1967;

Who's Who In America, Vol. 34, 1966-1967;

Los Angeles Times, 23 November 1967;

New York Times, 13 April 1967.

DEC-10110, 7 March 1968.

03

[REDACTED]  
C10P/DO

26 April 1968

SECRET



SECRET

## CONTACTS:

CHOMSKY, Noam (201-827102) - Both spoke at MIT Committee to End the War in Vietnam sponsored teach-in on 9 February 1967, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

DOIG, Pham Van Premier (201-210957) - ZINN talked to him while in Hanoi, CA January 1968.

EGLESON, Nick (201-826532) - Both spoke at an anti-draft rally, held on 16 October 1967, at Boston, Massachusetts.

HAYDEN, Thomas Emmett (201-797791) - Both attended anti-Vietnam press conference, held on 31 January 1968 in New York City.

KING, Martin Luther (201-760966) - Both spoke at a rally sponsored by the SMCNV held on 15 April 1967 in New York City.

SPOCK, Benjamin Dr. (201-827677)

"

"

BEVEL, James Rev.

(connected with the Spring Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam)

CARMICHAEL, Stokely

"

DANNENBERG, Linda

"

CERENA-VALENTIN, Gilberto

"

McKISSICK, Floyd

"

PEPPER, William F.

"

ROBINSON, Cleveland

"

RUA, Pedro Juan

"

SERGER, Pete

"

OACHES, Phil

"

PAXTON, Tom

"

SECRET